MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPY PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR PO BOX 45044 6TH FLR. NEWARK, NJ 07102

DAVID SAMSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07101
Attorney for the Professional Counselor
Examiners Committee



By: Marilyn Bair

Deputy Attorney General Tel.: (973)648-3696

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF

SARAH CRANE

Licensed to Practice Professional Counseling In the State of New Jersey Administrative Action

CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened to the New Jersey Professional Counselor Examiners Committee ("the Committee") upon receipt of a complaint from A.C. regarding the professional counseling practice of Sarah Crane ("respondent"), a Licensed Professional Counselor ("LPC"). Specifically, A.C. stated that respondent provided counseling services to his two children. At the request of the attorney representing the children's mother in a custody dispute, respondent wrote a letter describing the progress of the children. A.C. complained that the letter also stated that he had mood swings

and required anger management counseling. Respondent presented this as fact although she had neither seen nor spoken with A.C. The letter was considered by the court when making the custody decision. On April 4, 2002, respondent appeared with her attorney, James Wulach, for an investigative inquiry before the Committee.

Having reviewed the entire record, it appears to the Committee that respondent engaged in professional misconduct pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 (e) when she made observations in a letter regarding A.C.'s mental status without indicating that she had no first hand knowledge of A.C.

It appearing that respondent desires to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings and for good cause shown:

IT IS ON THIS 17 DAY OF ANGUST 2002,

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

- 1. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of one thousand, five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00).
- 2. Respondent shall pay the costs of the investigation in the amount of two hundred and forty dollars (\$240.00).
- 3. Respondent shall pay the above penalty and cost, totaling totaling one thousand, seven hundred and forty dollars (\$1,740.00) in ten consecutive, monthly payments with the first payment being in the amount of \$210.00 and remaining nine payments being in the amount of \$170.00. The first payment shall be due on or before August 1, 2002, and the remaining nine payments shall be due on or before the first day of each month until the penalty and costs are

paid in full. Payment shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to Dennis Gonzalez, Executive Director, Professional Counselor Examiners Committee, P.O. Box 45044, Newark, New Jersey 07101. If any payment is untimely, the full amount shall be immediately due and payable.

4. Respondent shall take a three credit, graduate course from an accredited institution in ethical practices in counseling. course shall be pre-approved by the Committee, and respondent shall submit proof of full attendance at and successful completion of the course. The course shall be completed within twelve months of the signing of the Consent Order.

NEW JERSEY PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

EXAMINERS COMMITTEE

I have read the within Consent Order and understand its terms. I hereby consent to entry of the Consent Order and to be bound by its terms.